

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 A-01 SY-03 FBIE-00 USSS-00

DRC-01 /085 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1096

UNCLAS MEXICO 2980

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR, ASEC, MX

SUBJ: SITREP NO. 60: PATTERSON KIDNAPPING: MORNING NEWS ROUNDUP,
APRIL 6

1. TABLOID 'LA PRENSA' AND ENGLISH-LANGUAGE 'NEWS' WERE ONLY
MEXICO CITY DAILIES TO CARRY A STORY ON PATTERSON TODAY.

'LA PRENSA' HEADLINE SAYS: "SEARCH FOR PATTERSON BEGINS ALL OVER
ARIZONA". THE STORY GOES ON: "AMERICAN POLICE ARE NOW
LOOKING FOR JOHN PATTERSON ALL OVER THE STATE OF ARIZONA
WITH RENEWED INTENSITY SINCE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT
HIS CAPTORS ARE HIDING HIM IN THAT STATE. "THE MEXICAN
POLICE REINFORCED THE INVESTIGATION ALONG THE BORDER WITH
THE UNITED STATES. MEANWHILE TENSION DIMINISHED IN HERMOSILLO
AND GUARDS WERE WITHDRAWN FROM THE AMERICAN CONSULATE AND
THE RESIDENCE AND EVERYTHING IS LOOKING NORMAL. THERE ARE
MANY WHO BELIEVE THAT PATTERSON HAS ALREADY BEEN LOCATED
BASING THEIR GUESS ON THE FACT THAT THE LIFE OF AMERICAN
OFFICIALS LOOKS MORE NORMAL AND TRANQUIL; ANN SEEMS TO HAVE
RECUPERATED. ANOTHER HYPOTHESIS IS THAT PATTERSON WAS
LOCATED BY AMERICAN POLICE AND THAT HE WILL RETURN TO
HERMOSILLO ANY TIME NOW. ALSO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE
VICE CONSUL IS DEAD IS BELIEVED BY MANY BECAUSE OF THE
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LACK OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE KIDNAPPERS. NEVERTHELESS,

ANN WENT TODAY (FRIDY) TO THE AIRPORT AND APPARENTLY WAS GOING TO LEAVE HERMOSILLO BOUND FOR CHIHUAHUA. THIS REPORT COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED NOR THE PURPOSE OF HER TRIP."

2. 'NEWS' HEADLINES THAT: "CONSUL KIDNAPPERS MAINTAIN SILENCE". THE STORY IS A TRANSLATION OF YESTERDAY STORIES SAYING THAT MIGUEL NAZAR, HEAD OF THE MEXICAN JUDICIAL POLICE, LEFT HERMOSILLO AND RETURNED TO MEXICO CITY AND THAT MRS. PATTERSON LEFT HERMOSILLO, DROVE 30 MILES ALONG THE HIGHWAY TOWARDS THE US-MEXICO BORDER AND THEN RETURNED.

3. BPAO HERMOSILLO REPORTS LIGHT PLAY APRIL 6 DAILY 'IMPARCIAL' WHICH STRESSED THAT AUTHORITIES SEEMED TO BE "ABANDONING" CASE.
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